

**Special Courts Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana**

February 24, 2006
Minutes

1. Members present. The following members of the committee were present Kenneth Abbott, Patrick B. Blankenship, Glenn Hancock, George Hoffman, Richard L. Tandy, and Peggy L. Quint Lohorn, Chair.
2. Staff present. Michelle C. Goodman provided the committee with staff assistance.
3. Guests. Lilia Judson, Executive Director, State Court Administration; Sr. Judge John Kellam; Mary DePrez, Director & Counsel, JTAC; and Keith Berry, JTAC.
4. Approval of Minutes. The Committee approved the minutes as amended from the November 4, 2005 meeting.
5. Presentation by JTAC on BMV Project. Mary DePrez presented an overview of the BMV project to the Committee members. The project provides an electronic tool for clerks to transmit SR16 information to the BMV in a more efficient and timely manner.
6. Traffic, Misdemeanor, Small Claims Benchbook. The Committee reviewed the proposed changes to Section 4.05. The Committee discussed the proceeding supplemental process outlined on page 40.2 and the application of the case law cited. The Committee determined that this section needs further amendment. Judge Blankenship was asked to supply the additional language and the appropriate sample form for this section.
7. Court structure discussion. The Committee then discussed Indiana's current court structure. Michelle provided the Committee with an overview of the materials distributed prior to the meeting and the additional materials distributed at the meeting. Lilia Judson opened the discussion by outlining two areas for consideration, 1) how city and town courts fit within the overall court structure in light of Judge Gregory's proposal to the Commission on Courts, and 2) what is the long term plan for Indiana's court structure. Sr. Judge Kellam also provided the Committee with an overview of past efforts to define and reorganize the state court structure. The Committee discussed the issues presented, determined to continue to review the materials that they had received, and will continue to deliberate on the issues raised at the next Committee meeting. The Committee requested that staff provide the past legislative proposal relating to reorganization of the court structure. The Committee members were encouraged to contact staff if they would like additional research completed prior to the next meeting.
8. 2006 meeting schedule. The following are the meetings for 2006:
Friday, May 12, 2006
Friday, Aug. 11, 2006
Friday, Nov. 3, 2006
All meetings will begin at 11 a.m. (Indianapolis time) at the Judicial Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle C. Goodman